Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey

Beyond the Snapshot
How we work

Create Stronger Evidence
Conduct impact evaluations

Share Evidence Strategically
Disseminate and co-create evidence

Equip Decision-makers to Use Evidence
Consulting, training and embedded learning labs
IPA Philippines

- Started work in the Philippines in 2003 (20 years)
- Over 70 research projects conducted in 83% of all provinces in the Philippines
- Main areas of focus include Education, Financial Inclusion, Governance, Social Protection
Philippines Socioeconomic Panel Survey

Objective is to provide publicly available data and a rich panel of Filipino households for government actors and NGOs to better understand the long-run processes of social and economic development.

The panel will serve as a unique platform for enabling rigorous impact evaluations that test long-run impacts of programs designed to help people experiencing poverty.

- **Location:** Rural Western Visayas (Aklan, Antique, Capiz, Iloilo, Negros Occidental)
- **Scope:** ~16,500 households across 750 barangays
- **2023:** First wave of data collection in August
- **2043:** Various interventions take place over twenty-year time frame
Evidence used locally:
- Government awareness of PSPS
- Government engagement of studies

Evidence generated locally:
- Connecting local PIs to the PSPS
- Events & lectures

PARTNERS & ROLES

- All data collection
- Management of PSPS
- Engagement with local and central government

- Academic research lead
- Project design
- Lead funder
Principal Investigators

Dean Karlan
Professor of Economics and Finance
Northwestern University

Chris Udry
Professor of Economics
Northwestern University

Other Researchers

Andrew Dillon | Northwestern University
Noam Angrist | University of Oxford
Emily Beam | University of Vermont
Gharad Bryan | London School of Economics
Jonathan De Quidt | Stockholm University
Catherine Thomas | Stanford University
Allan Bernardo | De La Salle University
Julia Buzan | London School of Economics
Rich data for the Philippines Public

Wide coverage: encompassing topics of national interest (not just one sector focus)

Carefully curated questions: ensuring the data is most useful to stakeholders and LGUs
  - Core Committee incl. PSPS researchers, PIDS and UPSE reviews the entire survey instrument
  - Focus Area Committee invitees from DepEd, DSWD etc.) reviewing specific modules
Planned Studies

Research Methods
Dillon
*What is the impact of enumerator skills on data quality?*
Focus on enumerator effects (recruiting, training, motivation)

Barriers to Higher Education
Karlan, Udry, Angrist, Beam
*What are barriers to take-up for higher education?*
Promising cash transfer conditional on college attendance, ECD program, information on subsidies

Livelihoods (International Care Ministries)
Karlan, Udry, Bryan, De Quidt
*Can group grants increase financial well-being through economies of scale?*
Cash grants for productive livelihood given to ICM participants either individually or groups of 2-4

Aspirations and Goal Setting
Karlan, Udry, Thomas, Bernardo, Buzan
*Can stating aspirations improve economic mobility?*
Light-touch intervention showing aspirational video, setting collective and individual goals
MILESTONES

Introduction to LGUs

Barangay list collection

Field office Setup

Pilot Questionnaire

Wave 1: Data collection starts

Field Officer Training

Wave 1: Data collection ends

Partnership with UPSE formalized

Partnership with PIDS formalized

Exploratory Field Work

Wave 1: Data collection starts

Apr

Mar

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Nov

2024
More Evidence For Less Poverty

➔ Strong partnership with central, regional and local Governments
➔ Increased engagement of local researchers
➔ Data driven by demand

The PSPS gives a voice to those less heard. We aim to connect research and policy to cater to their needs, and make programs more effective.
Find out more!

Contact Tara Marwah, Policy Manager at IPA
tmarwah@poverty-action.org